



1020 6th Street SE Cedar Rapids, IA 52401 PH: 319-892-6000

www.linncounty.org/603/Food-Safety

COOLING DOWN FOODS TEMPERATURE LOG

Date	Food	Start Time & Temp	1 st Hour	2 nd Hour	70° F or less in 2 hours?	3 rd Hour	4 th Hour	5 th Hour	6 th Hour	41 ° F or less in 6 hours?	Corrective Actions?	Recorded By	PIC Review
Example: 1/1/19	Beef Stew	8 am 135° F	9 am 135° F	10 am 67° F	Yes: continue No: reheat	11 am 56° F	12 pm 50° F	1 pm 44° F	8 am 38° F	Yes: label No: discard	Reheat or discard	AB	CD

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Rapid Cooling of Food:

- Cooling time starts when food reaches 135° F. Food may be left at room temperature until it drops to 135° F.
- Cool from 135° F to 70° F in 2 hours or less.
 - Corrective Action: If the food is more than 70° F at 2 hours, reheat to 165°F and start over OR discard.
 Reheating can only be done one time. If it has been more than 2 hours, the food must be discarded.
- If 70° F or less in 2 hours, continue to cool to 41° F in a total of 6 hours.
 - Corrective Action: If total cooling time exceeds 6 hours the food must be discarded.
- Once at 41° F, it's ready to be covered, labeled, dated, and stored in the refrigerator.

Tips for Speeding up the Cooling Process:

- Stir frequently and only loosely cover or keep food uncovered while cooling.
- Use the ice bath method by placing a pan of food inside a larger container or sink filled with a mixture of ice and water, stirring both frequently.
- Use an ice paddle with frequent stirring.
- · Add ice as an ingredient.
- Place food on the top shelf or cooling rack in the refrigerator. Separate pans to allow air to flow around the food.
- Divide large food quantities into smaller portions.
- Spread thick foods into thin layers or on a sheet pan.
- Metal pans allow food to cool more quickly and are better than plastic.